

BLUES FACE CLAPTON'S AMATEURS

HAVING overcome Croydon at the second attempt on Tuesday night, Wycombe Wanderers return to their Rothmans Isthmian League programme tomorrow (Saturday) with a home match against bottom club Clapton at Loakes Park. And after the excitement of that 5-2 F.A. Cup victory, tomorrow's game threatens to be something of an anti-climax.

On paper, Wanderers are expected to make short work of the only amateur side in Division One. Poor Clapton have struggled ever since avoiding relegation by the skin of their teeth last season. But the Blues are never at their best in these situations and they might well have to work harder to earn three points than they think.

Up until last week, Clapton

had the unenviable distinction of losing 16 league matches on the trot. During that time they scored just two goals and conceded 47. Then on Saturday, their fortunes changed at last when they recorded their first win of the season. Oxford City were the unfortunate club — going down to a Tony Davis goal after seven minutes.

The reason for Clapton's disastrous season comes down to one real problem — lack of cash. This shortage has forced them to play as purely amateur team and the players are not even paid expenses. Despite that, Clapton seem to have a good spirit at the club and their victory over Oxford will certainly have raised the spirit for tomorrow's visit

Clapton have a new manager this season in Danny Murphy, Bromley's boss last year. He brought with him virtually a new side with only John Bull and Andy Taylor remaining at the 'Spotted Dog.' The present team is made up of players from all grades of football.

Several Wycombe players are struggling with injury worries at the moment. John Delaney and Tony Horseman have back trouble while Paul Birdseye has been playing recently with a pulled hamstring. Tony Price and Ray Eaton both have ankle injuries, while John Maskell has a thigh strain.

Maskell's injury could pave the way for Peter Spittle to make his first appearance of the season

since re-joining the club from Woking. But the team will not be selected until manager Brian Lee has had time to view the extent of his injury list.

ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE (up to and inc 4/11/75)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Enfield	18	13	3	2	45	15	42
Hendon	19	10	5	4	28	14	35
Dulwich	17	10	2	5	33	16	32
Ilford	19	9	5	5	24	19	32
Sutton	16	9	4	3	37	18	31
Slough	19	8	7	4	29	20	31
Wycombe	18	8	5	5	28	22	29
L'head	19	8	5	6	33	33	29
Dah'ham	16	8	4	4	35	23	28
Hitchin	19	7	5	7	19	22	26
Bishops	19	7	4	8	24	24	25
Staines	16	6	5	5	19	13	23
Hayes	17	5	8	4	22	20	23
Tooting	14	6	4	4	21	17	22
Barking	13	6	3	4	19	18	21
Kings	16	5	4	7	28	42	19
Woking	18	4	2	12	21	32	14
W'stow	17	4	2	11	20	33	14
Oxford	17	3	5	9	9	25	14
Southall	11	3	3	5	18	22	12
L'stone	17	1	5	11	13	31	8
Clapton	17	1	0	16	3	47	3